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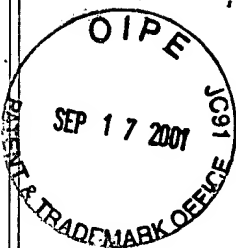
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PATENT  
B208-346 DIX

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Kenichi Nagasawa, et al.  
Serial No. : 09/437,694  
For : SIGNAL RECORDING APPARATUS  
Filed : November 10, 1999  
Examiner : H. Nguyen  
Art Unit : 2715

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

In response to the Office Action of April 25, 2001, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 22-30 and add claims 31-37 as follows:

31. A digital information coding apparatus, comprising:

- a) an input unit, arranged to selectively inputting a first parallel data of N bits representing a first digital information and second parallel data of N bits representing a second digital information;
- b) an encoder, arranged to encode the first parallel data to generate third parallel

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